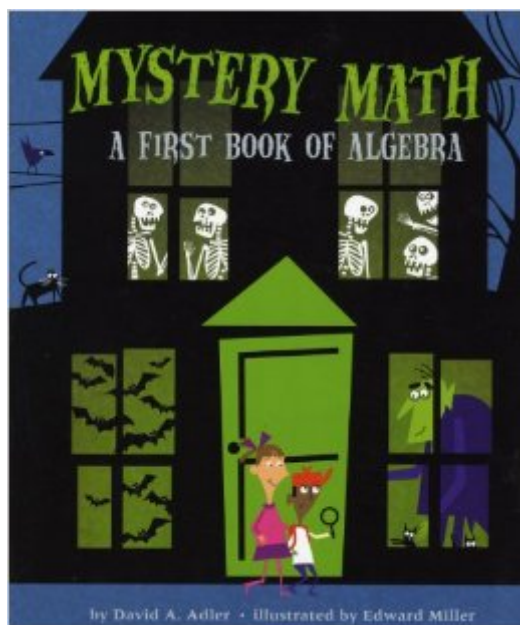


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# Mystery Math: A First Book Of Algebra



## Synopsis

In this accessible first book of algebra set in a creepy haunted house, readers will learn to find the unknown number of skeletons, ravens, and bats by using simple addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division to solve equations.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 780 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Holiday House; Reprint edition (June 1, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0823425487

ISBN-13: 978-0823425488

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #35,586 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Math > Algebra](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 1 - 5

## Customer Reviews

Mandy and Billy have stopped by an old haunted house. On the telephone wires they see lots of ravens sitting and some flying away. Their job is to solve the mystery of math by using algebraic formulas. The mystery could involve addition, subtraction, multiplication or division. For example: they see 13 ravens but 6 have flown away. So now, they have to figure out, by using algebra, what the mystery number is in regards to how many ravens are left sitting on the wire. The trick is to figure out the following algebra equation  $R-6=13$ . This is done by adding 6 to each side of the equation and narrowing numbers down from there. As Mandy and Billy unravel the mystery in the math they encounter lots of scary creatures like, bats, a creepy monster, skeletons and more. Young mathematicians will learn algebraic terms and how to take their existing knowledge of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and turn it into an algebraic equation to find the mystery number. The back of the book has a few simple activities in regards to making their own balance scales. Teachers, homeschoolers and beginners will learn the basics of algebra in a fun and simplistic way.

My almost-7-year-old has been complaining that his schoolwork is too easy. I decided to try to find some fun books to engage him and teach him new concepts. We got this book from the library today and I am already on to purchase it! He was thrilled with the idea of a "mystery number" and thoroughly enjoyed solving the mysteries. The concepts are put in a fun perspective and the drawings are very captivating. He was even creating his own equations until I had to take away the book because it was past bedtime! To my delight he even begged for more---"Please let's do just one more algebra problem before bed mama?"---words any mom would be thrilled to hear!

Super cute book, but better than that, it is a good literacy tool to use with students when either teaching or reviewing the process for finding "n". Students remember and associate finding the variable with this story.

This book is great the kids to get started with their Algebra. Makes math fun. Enjoyed it very much so.

Great to use to introduce equations! I used it with middle school students and they loved it.

My 9 year old daughter bought this book with her own money and could not believe that these 32 skinny pages of limited information could cost \$14. This book is described as an "accessible introduction". It is more like an embarrassment. It has so little information that it could have been crammed into an 8 page pamphlet for \$2. Thanks for teaching my 3rd grader that some things are just a plain rip off.

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